

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T USNATO 00998

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y F O R T A G S I N F O

E.O. 11652: GDS REPEAT GDS

TAGS: OVIP (LUNS, JOSEPH M.A.H.)

SUBJ: MESSAGE FOR NATO SYG LUNS

THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE HAS ASKED MISSION TO TRANSMIT FOLLOWING URGENT REPEAT URGENT MESSAGE AND GET IT INTO THE HANDS OF SYG LUNS BEFORE HIS APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT AT 1500 HOURS WASHINGTON TIME FEB 24. MISSION NOTES SYG SCHEDULED TO SEE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AT 1130 AND GENERAL BROWN, CHAIRMAN JCS, AT 1215 AND SUGGESTS POSSIBILITY OF DELIVERING MESSAGE THROUGH THEIR OFFICES.

BEGIN QUOTE:

TO: SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO DR. JOSEPH M.A.H. LUNS

FROM: ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL AMBASSADOR PANSA

IN VIEW OF YOUR CURRENT TALKS I FEEL YOU OUGHT TO BE INFORMED OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. I WAS INFORMED AFTERNOON OF 23 FEBRUARY THAT GENERAL HAIG HAD RECEIVED ON 22 FEB A DIRECT MESSAGE FROM GENERAL SANCAR

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TO THE EFFECT THAT TURKEY WOULD NOT TAKE PART IN WINTEX. REASONS GIVEN WERE MOSTLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY TECHNICAL, AND HAD GENERALLY TO DO WITH GREEK POSITION. TURKEY'S DECISION

CAME AS LATEST DEVELOPMENT OF PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN NATO AND TURKISH MILITARY AUTHORITIES, WHICH HAD EXTENDED OVER SOME TIME AND WERE MARKED AT ONE POINT BY A DELAY NOT IMPUTABLE TO TURKEY.

2. THIS MORNING I ASKED ERALP TO CONVEY TO HIS AUTHORITIES MY CONCERN AND HOPE THAT THEY MIGHT REVISE THEIR DECISION. I POINTED OUT THAT I WAS CONFIDENT THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE TO IRON OUT THE PRESENT DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN NATO AND TURKEY'S MILITARY AUTHORITIES SO THAT CONTINUOUS PARTICIPATION OF TURKEY MIGHT BE ASSURED. I ALSO NOTED THAT A MORE APPROPRIATE CHANNEL TO CONVEY THE DECISION WOULD HAVE BEEN A COMMUNICATION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, OR BE ERALP TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL. ERALP HAD NOT YET RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE ANY OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION. PERSONALLY HE WAS NOT IN FAVOUR OF ANKARA'S DECISION AND SAID THAT HE WOULD INTERVENE WITH HIS GOVERNMENT.

3. USUAL INFORMAL SMALL GROUP OF AMBASSADORS AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE CONVENED SUBSEQUENTLY AND AGREED THAT RATIONALE OF THE DECISION MIGHT EXTEND BEYOND REASONS WHICH HAD BEEN STATED. REFERENCE WAS MADE BY HILL-NORTON TO SOME REPORTS THAT TURKEY'S DECISION RE WINTEX MIGHT SOON BE FOLLOWED BY STRONGER MEASURES ON BILATERAL AS WELL AS MULTILATERAL LEVEL INCLUDING POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF TURKEY FROM NATO INTEGRATED MILITARY COMMAND STRUCTURE.

4. IN LIGHT OF CONSENSUS EMERGING AT THIS MEETING, HAIG IS SENDING A DIRECT MESSAGE TO SANCAR EXPRESSING HIS CONCERN AND OFFERING TO DISCUSS THE WHOLE QUESTION DURING HIS COURTESY VISIT TO ANKARA SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MONDAY, 3 MARCH. I HAVE INFORMED ERALP OF THE ABOVE.

APPROVED ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL
AMBASSADOR P. PANSA CEDRONIO UNQUOTE
MCAULIFFE

NOTE BY OC/T: NATO 998 RAISED TO EXDIS PER S/S-O, MR. HOGANSON,
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